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Letter dated 11 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to attach herewith the detailed report entitled "The United States should not abuse the Armistice Agreement Supervisory Mechanism she scrapped", issued by the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's Army on 8 August 2008 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Sin** Son Ho
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 11 August 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Detailed report by the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's Army

The United States should not abuse the Armistice Agreement Supervisory Mechanism she scrapped

Panmunjom, 8 August, Juche 97 (2008)

In view of the fact that the United States is playing tricks to give the impression that the defunct Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission (NNSC) is still in existence, the Panmunjom Mission of the Korean People's Army (KPA) hereby issues a detailed report, as follows.

The United States has long since turned south Korea into a nuclear base, the biggest ever in the world, and eliminated the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission — a body to supervise the implementation of the Armistice Agreement and its affiliated Neutral Nations Inspection Teams which have impeded its preparation for provoking a new war.

Even today, the United States still stations members of the defunct Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission from Switzerland and Sweden at Panmunjom and stages a disgraceful drama to mislead the public at large, as if the Commission remained in place.

In recent days, the United States side hustles about, holding a meeting of the NNSC almost on a daily basis by manipulating Swiss and Swedish personnel who used to man the defunct Commission; even when the Commission was active, meetings were held only once a week, every Tuesday.

The United States side also instigates Swiss and Swedish personnel of the defunct Commission to stand on the Demarcation Line for hours and hold a certain "message", soliciting us for its acceptance, as a part of "diplomacy to win sympathy" — obviously a move aimed at winning the sympathy of tourists who visit Panmunjom.

We have already refused to accept this so-called "message".

Worse still, the United States side, in its disgrace, is bent on an attempt to give the impression that the NNSC is still operational by encouraging the Swiss and Swedish personnel to work as guides for the tourists at Panmunjom and show up at shameful ploys such as GIs' helicopter take-off and landing exercises and "memorial services" for United States servicepersons held in the vicinity of the meeting hall.

Even in Europe, at the instigation of the United States, the personnel from the ex-member States of the NNSC huddle together for a supposed annual meeting to make preposterous remarks about their continued willingness to fulfil their duties pursuant to the Armistice Agreement.

The NNSC was an international body that was instituted at Panmunjom on 1 August 1953, in accordance with paragraph 36 of the Armistice Agreement.

Its primary mission was to supervise and observe the implementation of subparagraph d, paragraph 13, of the Armistice Agreement aimed at preventing the recurrence of armed conflicts after the ceasefire; that paragraph stipulated that the parties to the Armistice should not introduce the reinforcing elements of armed forces into Korea.

With the NNSC still in place, the United States military was not in a position to modernize the United States troops occupying south Korea. Moreover, it was impossible for the United States military to ship in nuclear weapons — a scheme driven by its "strategy for massive retaliation".

Accordingly, the United States military sabotaged the supervision and inspection activities of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams in every way.

As its military beef-up and violations of the Armistice Agreement had been uncovered, the United States side forcefully expelled Neutral Nations Inspection Teams stationed within its territory on 9 June 1956 and officially announced its unilateral renunciation of implementation of subparagraph d, paragraph 13, of the Armistice Agreement at the 75th session of the Military Armistice Commission, held on 21 June 1957.

As a result, the NNSC ended up existing in name only.

On 25 March 1991, the United States side designated a general of the south Korean puppet army as its senior delegate to the Military Armistice Commission, in flagrant violation of paragraph 20, article II, of the Armistice Agreement; it must be noted that south Korea is neither a signatory to the Armistice Agreement nor qualified and empowered to handle issues arising from the implementation of the Armistice Agreement. Thus, the Military Armistice Commission was compelled to halt its activities and consequently, the NNSC was left without terms of reference.

Meanwhile, the personnel of the NNSC from Czechoslovakia and Poland withdrew from Panmunjom. Further, the admission of Czechoslovakia and Poland into NATO resulted in the loss of their neutrality. Finally, the NNSC that existed in name only collapsed completely.

Nevertheless, the United States is playing tricks to give the impression that the defunct NNSC still exists. This sinister move is aimed at justifying the presence of the "United Nations Command" as a signatory to the Armistice Agreement and giving legitimacy to an automatic and prompt deployment of multinational armed forces in case of emergency on the Korean peninsula. It also seeks to shift the blame for the collapse of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by preparing the Swiss and Swedish personnel to act as "eyewitnesses" in favour of the United States.

However, it takes more than cunning tricks of this nature to avoid responsibility. The blame for the intentional scrapping of the NNSC and the creation of the nuclear crisis on the Korean peninsula lies entirely with the United States.

The United States not only undermined the NNSC systematically but also brought in a massive supply of various kinds of operational equipment and nuclear weapons, thus literally turning south Korea into its nuclear arsenal and a front-line

depot to give logistic support. As if all these were not enough, the United States has been conducting incessant nuclear war exercises against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

This is the reason why the nuclear crisis was created on the Korean peninsula and our people were forced to live under constant threat of nuclear war posed by the United States.

Today, the United States and its followers trumpet as if the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula had been created because the Democratic People's Republic of Korea established a nuclear power facility and built up a war deterrence for self-defence against the threat of nuclear strike posed by the United States while stepping up its sanctions and pressure against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It does not make sense at all.

The KPA has been standing in confrontation with the United States troops armed with a huge stockpile of nuclear weapons of all kinds in south Korea.

Korean people are not weak-kneed people who are overwhelmed by the nuclear threat posed by the United States and helplessly wait for a stroke of luck and mercy to come from heaven.

If the United States believes that its threats, arbitrary use of power and sanctions could bring our people to their knees, it is a serious mistake.

Sanctions and pressure of the United States and its followers cannot intimidate Korean people who regard sovereignty as their lifeblood. No one can lay its hands on our system and sovereign dignity.

The current situation proves that we were absolutely right to build up military power for self-defence at an appropriate level against the nuclear threat posed by the United States.

The United States must perish its daydream to achieve a sinister goal by taking advantage of the monster-like "Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission".

The only valid choice to promote lasting peace and secure stability on the Korean peninsula is to replace the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement and establish a new system to ensure peace.